

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 /073 W

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R 211639Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9116

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 0891

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, PFOR, XF, IT

SUBJECT: EC: EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE

REF: ROME 182 AND 801

1. EGYPTIAN EMBASSY OFFICER (EL MASRY, FIRST SECRETARY)
INFORMS EMBOFF THAT EC'S GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR EURO-ARAB
DIALOGUE WILL VISIT CAIRO LATE JANUARY IN SEARCH OF MODALITIES
TO PERMIT DIALOGUE TO GO FORWARD. PRIME PROBLEM APPARENTLY
REMAINS PLO PARTICIPATION.

2. EL MASRY COMMENTED THAT VARIOUS FORMULAS HAVE BEEN TRIED
IN THE PAST AND FOUND WANTING BY PLO WHICH IS NOT LIKELY TO
APPROVE ANY WHICH WOULD BRING IT TO THE DIALOGUE TABLE AS
OTHER THAN A DISTINCT ENTITY. AMONG REJECTED FORMULATIONS:
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A) PLO TO HAVE A VOICE "THROUGH" ARAB LEAGUE GENERAL

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION COMPRISED OF PRESIDENT OF LEAGUE,
SECRETARY GENERAL AND MEMBERS FROM THREE "SELECTED" ARAB
OIL PRODUCERS.

B) REPRESENTATION THROUGH ARAB CHIEFS OF MISSIONS IN BRUSSELS.

C) "NON-NATIONAL EXPERT" REPRESENTATION (REFTELS).

3. EMBOFF COMMENTED THAT APPARENTLY SOME EC STATES FEAR
PLO WOULD POLITICIZE WHAT THEY CONSIDER WAS INTENDED AS A
TECHNICAL APOLITICAL FORUM. EL MASRY RESPONDED THAT
DIALOGUE COULD START AS TECHNICAL BODY BUT THAT THERE "WAS
A FEELING AMONG ARAB STATES" THAT IT HAD TO BE LEFT OPEN
FOR POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE SIDES. VOLPE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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